

***For Your Information***  
***Weekly***  
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF  
September 26, 2014

**Dates to Remember:**

October 16, 2014	City Commission Workshop
October 20, 2014	City Commission Meeting
October 25, 2014	Fall Festival – Sugar Festival Field

**Staff Reports**

**Golf Course Operations Director Ford reports:**

- Greens were fertilized with a granular blend of 11-3-22.
- Cross Training Ministry has started edging of bunkers. Holes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 have been completed.
- The irrigation leak on number 8 has been repaired.
- The pump station had its six month service completed.
- A big THANK YOU is in order for U.S. Sugar for once again taking care of spraying of all our waterways.

**Library Director Barrett reports:**

- The Library is gearing up to start its tutoring and homework help program again this school year. This year promises to be even better than the last one and we already have several children signed up. Call the Library for more information at 983-1493.
- Look for the start of the Family Literacy Center in the Library. Through this program, not only will children be helped, but also adults needing help with English as a second language.
- The Library is about to invest in purchasing LeapPad3 tablets for loan to our young customers to help them increase their reading and math proficiency. This will involve the use of the famous Leap Frog resources that have helped so many to be good readers. Make sure your child has an active Library card to benefit from this novel program which is being pioneered here in Hendry County.
- The Microsoft IT Academy which we had hoped to start the first week of October will be postponed again because of technical challenges we are trying to find solutions for. Prices for classes and certifying exams will be forthcoming soon.

**Police Chief Gutshall reports:**

- Officers responded to a report of a burglary to a vehicle Sunday morning around 4:30 a.m. The offenders were trailed by K-9's and police officers on foot until they were cornered inside a work van on East Del Monte around 7:00 a.m. Both suspects refused to exit the vehicle and due to the fact the two were suspected to be armed with a handgun stolen from the complainant's vehicle, K-9's were released into the vehicle to secure them. Both suspects were arrested and treated for minor wounds. The two juveniles are being held in secure detention. Officers suspect the duo in multiple burglaries in the area overnight Saturday and early Sunday morning. PBSO was very generous to provide us with the use of their helicopter and a K-9 Team to complement our efforts.
- The DUI saturation patrol resulted in several drug arrests including methamphetamine and cocaine, as well as two DUI arrests. Several other people were arrested for outstanding warrants and driving with a suspended DL. Four vehicles were impounded as a result of the arrests.
- Several months ago, our office received a complaint of a stolen vehicle which morphed into an IRS fraud and identity theft case. As the evidence mounted and involvement leads spider webbed on us, we turned the case over to FDLE and IRS. Last weekend, several people were arrested across the State in a wide ranging identity theft ring which stretched from Central Florida to Miami. Among those arrested was a Central Florida Deputy Sheriff who was accessing departmental computer information to obtain personal information for the purpose of identity theft. Detective Julius Taylor was responsible for uncovering the meat of this case and we are very proud of him.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
  - 1094** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
  - 603** Complaints Investigated
  - 21** Arrests Made
  - 63** Traffic Citations Issued
  - 43** Red Light Camera Violations
  - 68** Merchant Escorts Provided
  - 17** Alarms Responded To
  - 5** Code Enforcement Cases Opened
  - 4** Trespass Warnings Served
  - 2** Traffic Accidents Investigated

**Public Works Director Scheffler reports:**

- Mosquito Control: Next scheduled spray: Ground Truck ULV - September 26. Next aerial application October 15<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. Winds out of the southwest have helped considerably and our mosquito trap counts indicate this.
- Street Maintenance: (1) We are still trimming trees that obstruct visibility at intersections and low hanging tree branches in the ROW. If you have a tree you don't want us to trim, please call the office at 983-1471 and let us know when you will be trimming it. Clear zone must be back to property line and up at least 20 feet. (2) Street sweeper is out on the street again cleaning out inlets and swales where debris and silt are washing into them due to all the rain we have been getting.

- Facility Maintenance: (1) Staff is changing AC filters and replacing blown lights in buildings. (2) A pipe in the wall at the Police Department burst and will require a wall to be opened up to locate and repair the problem.
- Paving project: Weekly Asphalt has formally agreed to the changes in the quote (due to local vendor preference policy) and is ready to sign a contract. The contract is expected to be sent by end of the week.
- Public Works staff will be placing yellow notices on doors over the next few weeks reminding residents of City Ordinance requirements, such as attention to solid waste cart placement, over filling of the cart, cart removal from the street, trash on canal banks and clearing the right-of-way. It is a good time for everyone to think about and look at how and what you offer for collection at the street. If you have a question about this, call Public Works at 983-1471. A lot of what is being offered for collection should and can be recycled.
- The Mosquito Control contract and the North Side mowing contract are ready to bid. It will be advertised in the newspaper next week and interested parties can stop by the Operations Building at 1300 S. Olympia Street and pick up a bid packet. They can also be viewed on line at the City web site, [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov).

#### **Recreation Director Ramer reports:**

- The senior citizens have moved back into their building this week and seem to enjoy and appreciate the renovations. We will be holding a “GRAND OPENING” on Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for the community hosted by Hope Connections. The City of Clewiston will be hosting a Chamber Social the same day beginning at 5:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!
- John Boy Auditorium Northside A/C has been repaired. We have also utilized the down time to take care of some minor maintenance issues with alarms, touch-up painting and cleaning behind appliances.
- Replacement of the A/C on the Northside of the Beardsley Room will begin this week.
- The James Mason Pool will be seeing some repairs to the marcite on the shallow end of the pool this week. Thanks to Terry Lowman and the crew with the Utilities Dept. for helping to problem solve filling the pool back up with water, after the pool’s main pump went out.
- Sugarland Sports Complex staff are prepping, squaring, setting goals, and marking fields for the upcoming AYSO season and CHS Soccer seasons. A total of seven (7) soccer game fields will be utilized this season. Additional areas for soccer practice are being prepped as well. AYSO began their season on Tuesday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. You can check [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) for schedules, dates, and times of games.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Latin Festival will take place Saturday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> at the Sugar Festival Field from noon till 6:00 p.m. Food vendors of all flavors and music for all ears will be going on. Come out and savor the taste and sounds of our Latin community.
- Plans are being made for the “Kid’s Fall Festival” tentatively scheduled for Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Sugar Festival Field. Contact Joanna at the Youth Center 983-1492 if you are interested in participating and having a booth.
- Go to [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

**Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- The Water/Sewer Crew repaired several water breaks and replaced 2 lift station pumps this week. They also assisted the Recreation Department with work at the Harlem Pool and Public Works with the replacement of an air conditioning unit at the Beardsley Room.
- The Electric Crew has been busy clearing easements and changing out poles and transformers.
- We welcomed Manny Gomez to our department this week. Manny will be working with the Water/Sewer crew and will be assisting with air conditioning maintenance and repairs.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or call our office.
- DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION! Visit our office today.
- ONLINE UTILITY PAYMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE! You can register your account by visiting our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) and click on the link at the bottom of the page or by going to <https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl>. Payments can be made by credit or debit card. You can also review your account activity, consumption history and request certain work orders.